

Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund Advisory Board Meeting

March 19, 2010

Location Maine Health Access Foundation

150 Capital St. Suite 4 Augusta, Maine 04330

Attendees: Joe Robinson, Eric Frohmberg, Karyn Butts, Andy Smith, Syd Sewall, Carole Cifrino, Barbara Leonard, Maureen Brown

Absent: Meredith Tipton, MaryAnn Amrich, Peter Doran, Gail Lombardi

Evaluation Update (CGR)

After two draft sections were reviewed and accepted, CRG has submitted a full Draft Evaluation Plan to MECDC. The LPPF Advisory Board has received copies for review and comment. The group will look at the plan, and give all comments by next Friday to Eric and Joe. Distribution of the draft plan will broaden to include LPPF partners.

Next steps:

1. After review and comments follow-up conference calls with CGR and their consultant from NCHH Jonathan Wilson
2. Work with CGR to evaluation tools (data collection)
3. CGR will be presenting a webinar to Community Partners in April as well as at the May LEAd ME meeting.

Community Grant Update

The latest Community Partner Quarterly Reports have been collected and collated. The LPPF Advisory Board has received copies for review. We have scheduled a second Sharing Summit with our High Density and District (including 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier) Community Partners. We will meet in Augusta on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

The LPPF and its partners have been approached by several groups to provide lead-safe training during home visits. We are interested in capitalizing on home visits by these various organizations. (Local Health Officers, Head Start, Catholic Charities, Advocacy for Children, United Somali Women, Section 8, weatherization, Home Inspectors, etc.) These groups are in the homes and have a golden opportunity to identify possible hazards and provide educational material. LPPF is providing direction and training to

these groups on the signs of lead and lead exposure in buildings, specifically where children are. To be aware and to recognize potential health problems, to know enough about the issue so that they can then make contact with the appropriate persons or agency for follow up. LPPF will be prudent and selective as they move forward in this area.

The next 3 Lead Webinars.

1. “**Lead Poisoning Prevention and the Healthy Homes Model**” Tuesday March 30, 2010 from 11:00 AM – 12 noon.
2. “**LPPF Evaluation Plan: Data Sources & Reporting Needs**” Tuesday April 27, 2010 from 11:00 AM – 12 noon.
3. “**Thinking About Lead During a Home Visit**” Tuesday May 25, 2010 from 11:00 AM – 12 noon.

### Lead Dust Testing Update

Progress is being made in Saco/Biddeford area; should meet the Quota 100 units tested by July. Portland and other High Density Areas are looking to follow Sanford’s approach to Lead Dust Testing (LDT) in rental units. They are setting up and recruiting local individuals to attend Lead Dust Sampling Technician training. These individuals may be associated with the Housing Authority, General Assistances, and/or area advocacy groups. In particular there is a push to have non-English speaking (Somali) persons trained in Portland and LA.

Rental Units LDT To-Date: **73**

Bangor – **11**

Lewiston/Auburn – **13** (5/8)

Portland/South Portland/Westbrook) – **18** (13/2/3)

Saco/Biddeford – **25** (0/25)

Sanford -**6**

The EPA still only has certified one DEP contracted Instructor to provide RRP training. This has been a real hassle to contractors, Landlords and Community Partners who are trying to assist in promoting and setting up trainings as well as provide LPPF subsidized vouchers to **600 Landlords**. DEP has said that EPA Regional Office is moving the process along and a second Instructor could be on-line within a week.

Rick Reibstein will talk with Landlords and contractors about the RRP training at the Bangor Public Library April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Communications Strategy Update, Posters, Web Site, New materials Development, Public Health Educator

Our new Health Communication Specialist, Karen Butts was introduced. She started March 1<sup>st</sup>. She has quickly become immersed in several projects (Hardware Poster, Swiss-cheese articles, tip sheets and letters to landlords and tenants).

Starting In February, Brochures (without the lead dust test offer) were being sent out to OB-GYN offices around the state. The Toxicology program already has an organized mailing schedule of fish advisories that will now include the LPPF Brochure. This brochure is now also being offered for display at MaineCare regional offices.

The first mailing of the Brochure with the offer of a free LDT, were sent out to parents in the Portland (including Westbrook & South Portland), Sanford, and Saco & Biddeford areas. The response rate was **3.6%**, with **136 requested a LDT kit**. Of these **~16 kits** have been returned and analyzed. All but one so far has indicated low lead dust risk. The Lead Program has taken over the tasks of mailing the results back to the parents with the appropriate information.

It was determined from this Beta-Test that a 3.6% return rate was manageable enough for the LPPF to handle a State-wide mailing. We are in the process of massaging the mailing list, ordering the printing and organizing the posting of 25-30,000 brochures. The mailing will be done in batches of ~5,000 every two weeks between April and July. Before the mailing starts a sample survey of those that did not return the LDT kits will be conducted. As well as a survey of those that did not respond at all to the brochure.

We have started sending LDT kits to parents of children with EBLLs between 10-14ug/dl. These **“B” cases** do not prompt a mandated CLPPP Environmental Investigation. The CLPPP Environmental Coordinator offers the kits and provides guidance on how and where to test. To-date ~3 families have taken part in the program. It is expected that 80 homes-a-year will take advantage of this offer.

Now that H1N1 has dropped somewhat from the news plans will begin to plan a press event; the timing would be right with the hardware poster about to be beta-tested, the state-wide mailing of the LPPF Brochure will be soon, Swiss Cheese articles are being developed, and the Public Health Data Tracking Portal up and running. DEP has offered their press person Donna Gormley to assist.

CLPPP Update

The LEAD ME group is going very well. The Advisory Council has finished developed goals and finished a logic models. Evaluation and surveillance and the final narrative are the next pieces to complete the plan. CLPPP will be posting the surveillance report on the portal, and is continuing work on the screening plan.

Epidemiologists and MaineCare are working on screening rates. CLPPP wants to develop an outreach plan for Pediatricians, and think about revision of the risk assessment questionnaire. When the MMWR came out with information that stated nationally the link between eBLLs and Medicaid was no longer a major factor, local Pediatricians thought they would not have to worry about lead screening MaineCare kids which is not the case here in Maine. In Maine of all the children with eBLLs, the percentage of them who are MaineCare children has gone up significantly to ninety percent (5 years ago it was 50%). There has been a change in the last five years.

CLPPP has been working with WIC and Stephen Meister on combining Lead/Hemoglobin testing with one stick. WIC won't be doing the needle sticks it will be done at the pediatrician office or a lab. Primary Care Providers will get results through the IMMPACT2 website.

### Next Steps

#### **Next LPPF AB Meeting - May 21<sup>st</sup> 2010.**

- LPPF Budget (Paint Revenues)
- LPPF Contracts
- Update on LDT Programs
- Press Event